(b) No report regarding the misuse/diversion of funds released during 2001 - 02 has come to the notice of the Central Government.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

SSIs in Rajasthan

*378. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRIJHUMUK LAL BHENDIA:

Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether her Ministry has sought special grants from the Ministry of Commerce to benefit the small scale industries in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any schemes are under operation to promote the small scale industries in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OFTHE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATIVASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) For the promotion of small scale industries (SSI) in the country including Rajasthan, the Government is implementing various schemes/programmes—*viz.,* Integrated Infrastructural Development (IID) Scheme, Entrepreneurial, Managerial Training Programmes andTechnical Skill Development Programmes through Small Industry Service Institutes (SISIs), Tool Rooms, etc. Besides, Government has also announced a comprehensive policy package on 30.8.2000, which *inter alia* includes enhanced fiscal and credit support, better infrastructure, marketing facilities and incentives for technology upgradation. In the State of Rajasthan there is one SISI & one Field Testing Station at Jaipur and one Hand Tools Design & DevelopmenJTraining Centre at Nagaur. Under the IID Scheme, four centres in the districts of Jodhpur, Udaipur, Tonk and Nagaur have been sanctioned and Central Grant of Rs. 5.22 crores has been released. A National Programme for the development of Stone industry has been launched in the country in November 2000. The Centre for the Development

of Stone, Jaipur has been selected as Nodal Agency for implementation of the project. A Neem Project at Jhalawar and a Vetiver Project at Dholpur are under implementation in the state of Rajasthan. The National Small Industries Corporation Ltd. (NSIC) operates various Schemes like Hire Purchase of Machines, Composite Term Loan, Raw Material Assistance, Integrated Marketing Support Programme, Government Stores Purchase Programmes etc. Thus, the Central Government is supporting and supplementing the efforts of the State Government for the development of small and tiny sector in the State.

Storage /Transport of Foodgrains

†*379. SHRIMATIKUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by the Food Corporation of India on purchase, storage and transportation for per quintal of foodgrains during 2000-2001, 2001 -2002, and as on date;

(b) whether the cost of transportation and storage of foodgrains is continuously increasing; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps being taken by Government to contain this trend?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARADYADAV): (a) The expenditure incurred by FCI on acquisition and distribution of foodgrains which, *inter alia,* includes expenditure on purchase, storage and transportation is as under:

(Rs. per qtl.)

	2000-01 (RE)		2001-02 (RE)		2002-03 (BE)	
	Wheat	Rice	Wheat	Rice	Wheat	Rice
Acquisition cost	703.61	995.50	739.13	1052.66	757.64	1072.69
Distribution cost	126.03	152.57	132.17	151.69	121.52	133.68

(b) and (c) The aggregate cost of transportation and storage of foodgrains is increasing due to inflationary impact and higher volumes of procurement necessitating higher transactional expenses.

†Original notice of the question was reqeived in Hindi.